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WASHINGTON
FBI
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The FBI is cooperating with foreign intelligence agencies to guard against terrorist acts at this summer's Los Angeles Olympic Games, FBI Director William Webster said today.

But Webster said the agency did not yet know of any specific plans for terrorist incidents at the Olympics.

"This is not surprising because experience tells us that these plans are not normally put in place until a much shorter time frame before the event," he told a Senate Judiciary subcommittee.

"Not just our own intelligence sources, but sources abroad, the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) and friendly intelligence ... these organizations are all cooperating to make sure that we have the best possible intelligence base," Webster said.

He did say which countries were involved.

The FBI and local law enforcement authorities plan a huge security effort this summer to try to prevent any repetition of the disaster at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, when 11 Israeli athletes were killed by Palestinian terrorists.

Fear of terrorism in the United States has grown following last year's bombings of the U.S. embassies in Beirut and Kuwait and an explosion at the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

Webster said an investigation of the Capitol bombing was still in progress and it would be improper for him to "point the finger at a particular group."

He said it would be wrong to place too much emphasis on terrorism in the United States, which he said involved only a very small group of people.

There were only 31 terrorist incidents in the United States last year, a 40 per cent decline from 1982, he said.

"I think it is important that the public should not come to the conclusion that we are being overrun with people who support the overthrow of the United States," he said.

Webster said he was confident that terrorists would have no success in undermining the U.S. government so long as "we measure our response so that others do not think we are converting ourselves into a siege mentality or a police state."